GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2536
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2016
Use of Title of Awards
Senguttuvan Shri Balasubramaniam

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Awards such as Padma Shri, Padma Vibhushan and Padma Bhushan etc. can be used as titles, prefixes or suffixes to one"s name;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has framed any rule that if a person indulges in using the National Award as title, prefix and suffix to his or her name, he/she can be stripped of the award and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the proactive steps taken by the Government to prohibit this practice?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (d): The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, in its judgment dated December 15, 1995 in Transferred Case (Civil) No.9 of 1994 inter-alia directed that the national awards such as Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri should not be used as prefixes or suffixes and if this is done, the defaulter should forfeit the national award conferred on him or her by following the procedure laid
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down in Regulation 10 of each of the four notifications creating these awards. In view of this, every year immediately after these awards are conferred by the President of India, every Awardee is communicated the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and are advised not to prefix or suffix the award to his/her name.

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